

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

肾re Appin. of: ANIL N. SHETTY et al.

Appln. No.:

09/486,125

Filed:

June 12, 2000

For:

DATA ACQUISITION FOR MAGNETIC RESONANCE **IMAGING TECHNIQUE**

Attorney Docket No: 10546-010

Examiner: SMITH, Ruth S.

Art Unit: 3737

RENEWED PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT AND CONTINGENT PETITION TO REVIVE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)

By this Paper, Petitioners respectfully renew their petition filed July 31, 2003, captioned "Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unavoidably Under 37 C.F.R. 1.137(a)," in which Petitioners substantively sought a withdrawal of the Examiner's holding of abandonment in view of the nonreceipt by Petitioners of Paper #21, a final Office action bearing a mailing date of November 13, 2002. Reconsideration of Petitioners petition is respectfully requested, in view of the further remarks beginning on page 2 below, and attached Exhibits A-E.

Also by this Paper, and only in the event of denial or dismissal of Petitioners' renewed petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment, Petitioners contingently petition for revival of the application under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b). The requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b), including a "Contingent Request for Continued Examination" in reply to Paper #21; a contingent deposit account authorization covering the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(m); and the necessary statement, are discussed in detail beginning on page 5 of this Paper.

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

¹ The August 8, 2003 Decision (Paper #26) acknowledges that "in light of the allegations [the Petition is being] considered as a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.181."

To advance prosecution, an Amendment is being submitted simultaneously herewith, for entry into the record of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 either upon grant of Petitioners' renewed petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment, or upon grant of Petitioners' contingent petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) and the correlative entry of Petitioners' contingent request for continued examination.

Renewed Petition To Withdraw Holding Of Abandonment

Petitioners respectfully submit that the November 13, 2002 Office action was never received by Petitioners' attorneys and, accordingly, respectfully renew their petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181 for withdrawal of the holding of abandonment as indicated in Paper #22.

Pursuant to MPEP §711.03(c), Petitioners respectfully submit the following in support of their Renewed Petition:

- 1. Petitioners first became aware of an outstanding Office Action in this application on May 21, 2003, when Petitioners' attorney Steven L. Oberholtzer, of Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione ("BHGL"), proactively telephoned the Office for a status check.²
- 2. During the May 21, 2003 telephone conference, Mr. Oberholtzer spoke with Examiner Ruth S. Smith, who indicated that an Office Action had been mailed on November 13, 2002, to BHGL's Chicago Office, P.O. Box 10395, Chicago, IL 60610.³
- 3. On May 22, 2003, Mr. Oberholtzer obtained a computerized docket printout for the application, Docket No. 10546-010 (copy attached as Exhibit A). The docket printout did not indicate any paper having been received in the application since receipt of a prior Office Action mailed July 24, 2002 (Paper #19).

² See Petitioners' Petitioners' original Petition filed July 31, 2003, signed by Petitioners' representative Steven L. Oberholtzer, Reg. No. 30,670.

³ Id.



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- 4. On June 6, 2003, the Office mailed a Notice of Abandonment (Paper #22) which included a copy of the outstanding Office action mailed November 13, 2002 (Paper #21), further substantiating the May 21, 2003 proactive contact by Petitioners' attorney with the Office regarding the status of the application. <u>C.f.</u>, <u>Delgar Inc. v. Schuyler</u>, 172 U.S.P.Q. 513, 516 (1970) ("If you know that something is going to happen and it does not happen and you have not received it, why, I think it is par for the course to call up and say: Look, we missed something").
- 5. On July 28, Petitioners timely mailed their original Petition to substantively withdraw the holding of abandonment for failure to receive the November 13, 2002 Office action.
- 6. Upon receiving the Decision mailed August 8, 2003 (Paper #26), and subsequent to a telephone conference between the undersigned and Senior Petitions Attorney John J. Gillon, Jr., the undersigned collected additional docketing information supporting the nonreceipt of the November 13, 2002 Office action, now attached to this Renewed Petition as Exhibits B and C, which together form the handwritten "backup Journal" employed by Petitioners' attorneys, whose use is detailed in Paragraph 7 below.⁴
- 7. Petitioners' attorneys employ the following process for docketing incoming Patent Office mail: Patent Office mail is routed unopened to BHGL's Docketing Department, whereupon the envelopes are opened by Docketing personnel, and date-stamped as received. The date-stamped papers are immediately routed by BHGL's Docketing Department Supervisor to selected Docketing personnel for "docketing," which comprises both entry of relevant information including several interim and "final" due dates into the relevant database record, and the wholly-redundant, handwritten entry of abbreviated annotations on at least one individual "due date"-based pages of one of the Firm's backup Journals (initially, on the page corresponding to the expiration of the shortened-statutory

⁴ Portions of Exhibits B and C have been redacted to preserve confidential information appearing thereon, specifically, the identification of a client or adverse party by name, or the identification of a trademark or service mark to which a given Journal entry pertains.



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period; and subsequently transferred by hand one month ahead if an applicant's response was not filed by that date).

8. Accordingly, a final Office action mailed by the Office on November 13, 2002, and actually received by Petitioners attorneys would generate both several entries in BHGL's computerized docketing database, and at least an entry in one of BHGL's backup Journals on February 13, 2003 (expiration of the shortened-statutory period).

9. By way of example only, an Office action mailed by the Office to BHGL on November 13, 2002, in connection with unrelated BHGL Docket No. 10541-345 (see attached "public-side" PAIR printout for U.S. Application No. 10/034,574, attached as Exhibit D), was both properly entered into the corresponding BHGL docketing database record (a redacted copy of which is attached as Exhibit E), and duly appears as a Journal entry for both February 13, 2003 and March 13, 2003 (see Exhibit B, pp. 2, 5).

10. Neither the May 22, 2003 computerized docketing database record for the application (Exhibit A), nor the pages of each Journal corresponding to the four (4) separate dates upon which any due date information would have been docketed (see Exhibits B and C), include any annotation relating to the Office action mailed November 13, 2002 (Paper #21) in Petitioners' application, Docket No. 10546-010.

11. To further ensure accurate entry of all docketed dates, on or about the 15th day of each month, BHGL Docketing personnel generate a database dump including all docketed items becoming due in the next three (3) months, sorted by date; and perform a day-by-day comparison/correlation between the computerized docketing database dump and the backup Journals. Such a comparison/correlation was performed in each of the months from December 2002 through April 2003, as reflected by the left-hand marginal annotations (check-marks or highlighter marks) appearing on the several pages forming Exhibits B and C. These comparisons/correlations did not identify any discrepancy between the computerized docketing database record for Petitioners' application Docket No. 10546-010 and the backup Journal pages.

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12. All Journal annotations appearing on each of the four (4) separate dates, upon which any due date information for Petitioners' application would have been docketed (see Exhibits B and C), have been reviewed by Petitioners' attorneys to confirm that each entry correctly corresponds to a patent application other than Petitioners' application and, hence, is not a misidentified entry relating to Petitioners' application.

In view of the foregoing, Petitioners respectfully submit that Petitioners have established a prima facie case of the nonreceipt of Paper #21, and that the holding of abandonment in Paper #22 should be withdrawn.

Alternative Petition To Revive Unintentionally Abandoned Application

As noted on the first page of this Paper, in the event that Petitioners' above petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment is denied or dismissed, Petitioners contingently petition for revival of the application under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b), in view of the following:

- 1) Petitioners have filed simultaneously herewith under common cover letter both a "Contingent Request for Continued Examination (37 C.F.R. §1.114)" (with its respective deposit account authorization covering the requisite fee under Rule 17(e)), and an "Amendment" (for which Petitioners have calculated no additional fee due).
- 2) Petitioners hereby contingently authorize payment from Deposit Account No. 23-1925 of the petition fee of \$1,300.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(m), along with any other petition or processing fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 that may become due upon grant of the alternative petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b).
- 3) Petitioners submit that no terminal disclaimer is required, as this application was filed after June 8, 1995.
- 4) The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date until the filing of a grantable petition under Rule 137(b) was unintentional.

As to the latter point, Petitioners note that Petitioners proactively inquired as to the status of the application on May 21, 2003 – several weeks before the mailing date of the Notice of Abandonment (Paper #22) – and Petitioners mailed their petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment soon thereafter, on July 28, 2003. Petitioners further note the timing of this contingent petition is largely influenced by the Commissioner's urging, at page 8 of the Decision mailed August 8, 2003, that "Petitioner may wish to supplement his petition to plead alternatively under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)," and that "failure to submit such a petition 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) timely may be viewed as intentional delay and an absolute bar to revival."

Respectfully submitted,

October 8, 2003

Date

HAD/sko

The Ci Delevie

Hugo A. Delevie (Reg. No. 32,688)

Attorney for Applicants

Attachments:

Exhibit A: BHGL docket printout for Dkt. No. 10546-010

dated May 22, 2003

Exhibit B: Redacted pages from BHGL Journal #1 Exhibit C: Redacted pages from BHGL Journal #2

Exhibit D: "Public-side" PAIR printout for Appln. No. 10/034,574

Exhibit E: Redacted BHGL docket printout for

Dkt. No. 10541-345 dated October 8, 2003



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Actions

Application Date

Action	Base Date	Action Due Date	Indicator	Completed Date	Notes	Postcard/Resp
Information Disclosure Statement	Jun 12 2000	Sep 12 2000	IDC - CPI Gen.	Jun 7 2000	IDS	
Pwr Of Atty Req.	Sep 28 2000	Nov 28 2000	Reminder	Apr 13 2001	US-ASSUMED FILE / FILE POA	2001-04-16
Amendment	Jul 24 2002	Oct 24 2002	Due Date	Oct 24 2002	US-ACTION 3 MONTH / AMENDMENT	2002-10-29
Amendment & 1 Mo Ext	Jul 24 2002	Nov 24 2002	Due Date	OCT 24 2002	US-ACTION 3 MONTH / AMENDMENT & 1 EXT.	2002-10-29
Amendment & 2 Mo Ext	Jul 24 2002	Dec 24 2002	Due Date	Oct 24 2002	US-ACTION 3 MONTH / AMENDMENT & 2 EXT.	2002-10-29
Amendment Due	Jul 24 2002	Jan 24 2003	Final	Oct 24 2002	US-ACTION 3 MONTH / AMENDMENT & 3 EXTFINAL	2002-10-29
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Restriction-1st Ext.	2001	Aug 6 2001	Due Date	Jul 6 2001	US-RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQ. / RESPONSE & 1 EXT.	2001-07-09
Office Action Received?	Jun 12 2000	Aug 12 2001	Reminder	Jun 6 2001	US-FILING DATE / FIRST PTO ACTION	
Restriction-2nd Ext.	2001	2001	Due Date	Jul 6 2001	US-RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQ. / RESPONSE & 2 EXT.	2001-07-09
Restriction-3rd Ext.	2001	Oct 6 2001	Due Date	Jul 6 2001	US-RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQ. / RESPONSE & 3 EXT.	2001-07-09
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Follow Up	2001	Nov 6 2001	Due Date	Aug 13 2001	US-RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQ. / US-RESTRICTION/ Follow Up Date	2001-07-09
Amendment	Aug 13 2001	Nov 13 2001	Due Date	Nov 13 2001	US-ACTION 3 MONTH / AMENDMENT DRAWINGS	
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Amendment & 1 Mo Ext	Aug 13 2001	Dec 13 2001	Due Date	Nov 13 2001	US-ACTION 3 MONTH / AMENDMENT & 1 EXT. DRAWINGS	
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Remarks

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Inventors

Inventor Name
BIS, KOSTAKI G.
SHETTY, ANIL N.

Title

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DATA ACQUISITION FOR MAGNETIC RESPONANCE IMAGING TECHNIQUE

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	1191/15 - NOTICE OF OPPOSITION - JP 8285/598-INS-JFH 9281/4171- Amend. 4 Late Fee (4Tho.) - 451APC	50A (40	
	1191/15 - Notice of Opposition - JP 8285/598-TDS-JFH 8285/598-TDS-JFH 9281/471- Amend. & fate fee (4Tho.) - 45/APC 418 9281/471- Amend. & fate fee (4Tho.) - 45/APC 418 9281/471- Amend. & fate fee (4Tho.) - 45/APC		
	1191/15 - NOTICE OF OPPOSITION - JP 8285/598-INS-JFH 9281/4171- Amend. 4 Late Fee (4Tho.) - 451APC		
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	11191/15 Proposement drawings-MVR/APE - NOTICE OF OPPOSITION - JP 8285/598-IDS-JFH 9281/4171- Amend. & late fee (4Ths.) - 45MJT 9281/4171- Amend. & late fee (4Ths.) - 45MAPE 9281/3846- Nother of Appent for & late fee (4m) - 45MEM 412 amend. 1022/152-101.0f Appent for & late fee (4m) - 45MEM 412 amend.		
	11191/15 Proposement drawings-MVR/APE - NOTICE OF OPPOSITION - JP 8285/598-IDS-JFH 9281/4171- Amend. & late fee (4Ths.) - 45MJT 9281/4171- Amend. & late fee (4Ths.) - 45MAPE 9281/3846- Nother of Appent for & late fee (4m) - 45MEM 412 amend. 1022/152-101.0f Appent for & late fee (4m) - 45MEM 412 amend.		

Tuesday 13 May 133/36<u>5</u> 10541/1221 - File US; FOREIGN APPLIES (FINAL IS 5/2) - Sto/LAS · CIOSED 5/27/03 - Response Leminore - DOM 10541/1527 - AMENDMENT + 1EXT. (4TH MONTH) - EJS/ODT FICE 4/4 10541/1018 - AMENDMENT + / Ext. (4TH MONTH) - SLO/RJV Flo 4/14 - 11336/263 - ExAM FOR - MMA/SNH . 10900/3 - Amenoment + 1 Ext. (4TH Moure) 140/048 Filed 4/14/03 +10544/285-AMENDMENT (SED MONTH) - ESS/SSU 5/13 - 10996/6 - AMENDMENT (SAO MONTH) - Sto . Filed 5/13/2003 10541/618 - Issue Fee Final / Lusherman Fee Fine \$1600 - EJS/334 . Filed 5/760= = 9793/32 - AMENDMENT (3RD MONTH) - IND/LAS . 10541/1060 - File HAPPLEATION - ESS/OLT . Fled 5/21/2003 Final / Pusticeno For Final 540 Filed 4/21/2003 Final Amendment (Resp to 2/12 Comm) EJS/SSU Allowed - 105/13/47 - File Application - 500/ 1900/4016 - Jesue (ee 20 month (reminder)

LIST AVAILABLE COPY

Thursday 13 February 10541/188 - AMENDMENT (SED MONTH) -(CATH/ Dec | ARATION + \$ 150 SyeCHARGE RESPONSE + 1 EXT. (2NO MONTH) -RE-SUBMIT HOGH - SLO/ JMC

LIST AVAILABLE CC Thursday 13 March 10541/128 - AMENDMENT + 1EXX (4TH MONTH) -10541/188 - AMENDMENT + 1Ext. (4TH MONTH) - SLO/R3V COLL 2/13 +0541/1565 - MISSING PARTS + / EXT (DATH/DECLARATION + \$180 SHALHOREZ) SLO/RJV 11469/3 - Amenomens (300 MONTO) - EJS - 10541/1612-105-500/EJS. File 3/11 can 8481/41-105-00m care Filed 4/10/2003 4899/3-105-0BS -10541/618 - Issue For Ist MONTH (REMINDER) ESS/334 10043/47 - File Application -

103/365 Sunday 13 April Issue fee 2no Month (Remmen) - SLO. Filed 4/21/08

LS AVAILABLE COP 2003 Tuesday 13 May 10541/1221 - File US; FOREIGN APPLIES (FINAL IS 5/25) - STOPLAS . CIOSED 5/27/03 - 41513/3-- Response Learnose - DOM 10541/1527 - AMENDMENT + 1EXT (41H MONTH) - EJS/ODT FILOW 4/4 10541/1018 - AMILNOMENT + /Ext. (4TH MONTH) - SLO/RJV The 4/14 - 11336/263 - ExAM FEO - MMA/SNH 0 10900/3-Amemori + 1 Err (474 Amora) 1+0/0+8 Filed 4/14/03 - 1054/285-AMERICAN (SKO MONTH) - ESS/SSU - FILED 5/13 5 10996/6 - AMENOMENT (840 MONTH) - Sto a Filed 5/13/2003 10541/618 - Issue Fee Final / fushwan Fee Since \$1600 - EJS/334 . Filed 5/7/0= = 9793/32 - AMENDMENT (320 MONTH) - IND/LAS 0 10541/1960 - File AMberganon - ESS/OLT . Fred 5/21/2003 Final / Parsticum for Final 560 Filed 4/21/2003

105AT/35 Final Amendment (Respoto 2/12 Comm)
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Search	System Alerts	eBusiness Center	News & Notices	Contact Us	INFORMATION RETRIEVAL		10	
PLICATIO	Search results for application number: 10/034,574							
Applica	Application Number: 10/034,574			Customer Nu				
	r 371(c) Dat				s	tatus:	Advisory Action Mailed	
	lication Typ	_			Status	Date:	08-27-2003	
Exa	aminer Nam	e: BURCH,	MELODY I	VI	Location: TC 3600		TC 3600 CENTRAL FILES, PK5-2C12	
G	Group Art Unit: 3683		Location Date: 08-29		08-29-2003			
Confirma	Confirmation Number: 1541		Earliest Publication No: US		US 2003-0122293 A1			
Attorney Do	Attorney Docket Number: 10541/345		Earliest Publication Date: 07-0		07-03-2003			
Clas	Class/ Sub-Class: 267/036.1		Patent Number:-		-			
First Na	First Named Inventor: Junald Akhtar, Westland, MI (US)		Issue Date of P	atent:	-			
Title	Title Of Invention: Variable rate multi-arc composite leaf spring assembly							

Continuity Data	Published Documen

	File Contents History						
Number	Date	Contents Description					
25	08-27-2003	Mail Advisory Action (PTOL - 303)					
24	08-26-2003	Advisory Action (PTOL-303)					
23	08-21-2003	Date Forwarded to Examiner					
22	08-04-2003	Amendment after Final Rejection					
21	05-30-2003	Mail Final Rejection (PTOL - 326)					
20	05-29-2003	Final Rejection					
19	03-24-2003	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed					
18	04-01-2003	Date Forwarded to Examiner					
17	03-18-2003	Response after Non-Final Action					
16	03-18-2003	Request for Extension of Time - Granted					
15	01-24-2003	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed					
14	04-29-2002	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed					
13	11-25-2002	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed					
12	11-13-2002	Mail Non-Final Rejection					
11	11-07-2002	Non-Final Rejection					
10	04-30-2002	Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU					
9	12-27-2001	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed					
8	04-15-2002	Application Dispatched from OIPE					
7	04-01-2002	Application is Now Complete					
6	03-21-2002	Additional Application Filing Fees					
5	03-21-2002	Applicant has submitted new drawings to correct Corrected Papers problems					
4	02-01-2002	Corrected Paper					
2	01-26-2002	IFW Scan & PACR Auto Security Review					
1	12-27-2001	Initial Exam Team nn					

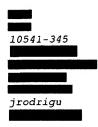
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Patents

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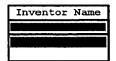
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US-ACTION 3 MONTH		Mar 13 2003				
US-Final Rejection	May 30 2003	Jul 30 2003				
US- AMENDMENT		Mar 13 2003	Feb 13 2003			
US- AMENDMENT 1 EXT.		Mar 13 2003	Mar 13 2003			
US- AMENDMENT 2 EXT.		Mar 13 2003	Apr 13 2003			
Priority Doc. To Be Filed			Apr 27 2003			
Redacted Publication Deadline		May 30 2003	Apr 27 2003			
US- AMENDMENT 3 EXTFINAL		Mar 13 2003	May 13 2003			
Published		Jul 14 2003	Jun 27 2003			
US-RESPONSE FILED - FOLLOW UP		Мау 30 2003	Jul 13 2003			
US-Final Amendment		Jul 30 2003	Jul 30 2003	Due Date		
Office Action Received?		Nov 13 2002	Aug 27 2003	Due Date	US-FILING DATE / FIRST PTO ACTION	
US-Notice of Appeal			Aug 30 2003	Due Date	8/27/2003-ADVISORY ACTION	
US-Appeal 1 Ext.	-		Sep 30 2003	Due Date	8/27/2003-ADVISORY ACTION	
US-Appeal 2 Ext.			Oct 30 2003	Due Date	8/27/2003-ADVISORY ACTION	
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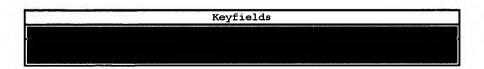
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Inventors



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Title

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File Tracking

File	Given	То	Date	Given
			2003-	-09-15